

Amendments to the Claims

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A system comprising:

2 a personal digital assistant including a memory defining a database, a
3 microprocessor coupled to the memory, an input/output device coupled to the
4 microprocessor, a wireless modem coupled to the microprocessor, and an output port
5 coupled to the microprocessor, the personal digital assistant being configured to provide
6 data to the output port indicating a predetermined event has occurred in response to
7 occurrence of the predetermined event; and

8 actuator circuitry including a digital to analog converter having a digital
9 input coupled to the output port, having an analog output, and being configured to
10 provide an analog signal in response to the data being applied to the digital input, and
B1 11 the actuator circuitry including a conductor configured to be coupled between a vehicle's
12 horn and the analog output of the digital to analog converter, the actuator circuitry being
13 configured to effect different patterns of honking of the horn for different predetermined
14 events in response to the data being provided to the digital input of the digital to analog
15 converter to distinguish between different types of predetermined events.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~A system in accordance with claim 1~~ A
2 system comprising:

3 a personal digital assistant including a memory defining a database, a
4 microprocessor coupled to the memory, an input/output device coupled to the
5 microprocessor, a wireless modem coupled to the microprocessor, and an output port
6 coupled to the microprocessor, the personal digital assistant being configured to provide
7 data to the output port indicating a predetermined event has occurred in response to
8 occurrence of the predetermined event, wherein the personal digital assistant includes
9 an e-mail client, and is configured to provide data to the output port indicating that an
10 e-mail has been received in response to an e-mail being received via the wireless
11 modem; and

12 actuator circuitry including a digital to analog converter having a digital
13 input coupled to the output port, having an analog output, and being configured to
14 provide an analog signal in response to the data being applied to the digital input, and
15 the actuator circuitry including a conductor configured to be coupled between a vehicle's
16 horn and the analog output of the digital to analog converter, the actuator circuitry being

17 configured to effect honking of the horn in response to the data being provided to the
18 digital input of the digital to analog converter.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim ~~1~~ and 2
2 further including a battery charger having a power input plug connector configured to be
3 coupled to a vehicle cigarette lighter power port and having an output connector,
4 wherein the personal digital assistant includes a rechargeable battery and has a
5 connector port configured to be coupled to the output connector of the battery charger.

B 1 Claim 4 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 4 2
2 wherein the actuator circuitry is configured to effect a pattern of discrete spaced apart
3 honks in response to the data being provided to the digital input of the digital to analog
4 converter.

1 Claim 5 (original): A system in accordance with claim 4 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is configured to generate different patterns of honks for different
3 predetermined events to distinguish between different types of predetermined events.

1 Claim 6 (original): A system in accordance with claim 3 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is coupled to the power input plug connector, to be powered by the
3 vehicle.

1 Claim 7 (original): A system in accordance with claim 3 wherein the
2 battery charger includes charger circuitry, and wherein the system further comprises a
3 common housing supporting the digital to analog circuitry and the charger circuitry.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 4 2
2 wherein the personal digital assistant further includes mobile phone circuitry, including
3 ringer circuitry configured to provide a signal to actuate ringing when a phone call
4 initiation attempt is being received, wherein the personal digital assistant is further
5 configured to provide data to the output port indicating that a phone call initiation attempt
6 is being received, in response to the ringer circuitry indicating that a phone call initiation
7 attempt is being received.

1 Claim 9 (original): A personal digital assistant-vehicle interface system,
2 for use with a personal digital assistant including a memory defining a database, a
3 microprocessor coupled to the memory, an input/output device coupled to the
4 microprocessor, and a serial output port coupled to the microprocessor, the personal
5 digital assistant being configured to provide data to the output port indicating a
6 predetermined event has occurred in response to occurrence of the predetermined
7 event, the interface system comprising:

8 actuator circuitry including a digital to analog converter having a digital
9 input configured to be coupled to the serial output port of the personal digital assistant,
10 having an analog output, and being configured to provide an analog signal in response
11 to the serial data being applied to the digital input, the analog output being configured to
12 be coupled to an electrically actuated vehicle component that, when actuated, is audible
13 or visible, the actuator circuitry being configured to effect actuation of the vehicle
14 component in response to the data being provided to the digital input of the digital to
15 analog ~~converter~~ converter, wherein the actuator circuitry is configured to effect different
16 patterns of actuations for different predetermined events in response to the data being
17 provided to distinguish between different types of predetermined events.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim 9
2 wherein the personal digital assistant further comprises a battery charger connector, and
3 further ~~including~~ comprising a battery charger ~~having~~ comprising a power input plug
4 connector configured to be coupled to a vehicle cigarette lighter power port and ~~having~~
5 an output connector configured to be coupled to the battery charger connector of the
6 personal digital assistant, the system further ~~including~~ comprising a housing enclosing
7 both the battery charger and the actuator circuitry.

1 Claim 11 (original): A system in accordance with claim 10 and further
2 comprising a personal digital assistant including a memory defining a database, a
3 microprocessor coupled to the memory, an input/output device coupled to the
4 microprocessor, and an output port coupled to the microprocessor, the personal digital
5 assistant being configured to provide data to the output port indicating a predetermined
6 event has occurred in response to occurrence of the predetermined event.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled).

1 Claim 14 (original): A system in accordance with claim 10 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is coupled to the power input plug connector, to be powered by the
3 vehicle.

1 Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~A system in accordance with claim 11~~
2 ~~wherein the personal digital assistant includes~~ A personal digital assistant-vehicle
3 interface system, for use with a personal digital assistant including a serial output port, a
4 wireless modem coupled to the microprocessor, and includes an e-mail client, the
5 personal digital assistant being configured to provide data to the output port indicating a
6 predetermined event has occurred in response to occurrence of the predetermined event
7 ~~and is configured to provide data to the output port indicating that an e-mail has been~~
8 ~~received in response to an e-mail being received via the wireless modem modem, the~~
9 interface system comprising:

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10 actuator circuitry including a digital to analog converter having a digital
11 input configured to be coupled to the serial output port of the personal digital assistant,
12 having an analog output, and being configured to provide an analog signal in response
13 to the serial data being applied to the digital input, the analog output being configured to
14 be coupled to an electrically actuated vehicle component that, when actuated, is audible
15 or visible, the actuator circuitry being configured to effect actuation of the vehicle
16 component in response to the data being provided to the digital input of the digital to
17 analog converter.

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): A system in accordance with claim ~~14~~ 15
2 wherein the personal digital assistant further includes mobile phone circuitry, including
3 ringer circuitry configured to provide a signal to actuate ringing when a phone call
4 initiation attempt is being received, wherein the personal digital assistant is configured to
5 provide data to the output port indicating that a phone call initiation attempt is being
6 received, in response to the ringer circuitry indicating that a phone call initiation attempt
7 is being received.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended): A method comprising:
2 providing a personal digital assistant including ~~a memory defining a~~
3 ~~database, a microprocessor coupled to the memory, an input/output device coupled to~~
4 ~~the microprocessor, and an output port coupled to the microprocessor;~~
5 configuring the personal digital assistant to provide data to the output port
6 indicating a predetermined event has occurred in response to occurrence of the
7 predetermined event;
8 ~~converting digital data at the output port to an analog signal to provide an~~
9 ~~analog signal in response to occurrence of the predetermined event; and~~
10 using the ~~analog signal~~ data from the output port to actuate an electrically
11 actuated vehicle component ~~that, when actuated, is audible or visible, such that~~
12 ~~actuation of the vehicle component is effected in response to occurrence of the in~~
13 different patterns corresponding to different predetermined event events.

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1 Claim 18 (original): A method in accordance with claim 17 wherein the
2 vehicle component is a horn.

1 Claim 19 (original): A method in accordance with claim 17 wherein the
2 vehicle component is a light.

1 Claim 20 (original): A method in accordance with claim 17 wherein the
2 personal digital assistant includes a rechargeable battery, the method further comprising
3 charging the battery of the personal digital assistant using power from the vehicle.

1 Claim 21 (new): A system in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 personal digital assistant includes an e-mail client, and is configured to provide data to
3 the output port indicating that an e-mail has been received in response to an e-mail
4 being received via the wireless modem.

1 Claim 22 (new): A system in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 personal digital assistant includes mobile phone circuitry, including ringer circuitry
3 configured to provide a signal to actuate ringing when a phone call initiation attempt is
4 being received, wherein the personal digital assistant is configured to provide data to the
5 output port indicating that a phone call initiation attempt is being received, in response to
6 the ringer circuitry indicating that a phone call initiation attempt is being received.

1 Claim 23 (new): A system in accordance with claim 1 further comprising a
2 battery charger comprising an output connector and a power input plug connector
3 configured to be coupled to a vehicle cigarette lighter power port and, the personal
4 digital assistant further comprises a rechargeable battery and a connector port
5 configured to be coupled to the output connector of the battery charger.

1 Claim 24 (new): A system in accordance with claim 23 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is coupled to the power input plug connector.

1 Claim 25 (new): A system in accordance with claim 23 wherein the
2 battery charger further comprises charger circuitry, and the system further comprises a
3 common housing supporting the digital to analog circuitry and the charger circuitry.

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1 Claim 26 (new): A system in accordance with claim 11 wherein the
2 personal digital assistant includes a wireless modem coupled to the microprocessor, and
3 includes an e-mail client, and is configured to provide data to the output port indicating
4 that an e-mail has been received in response to an e-mail being received via the
5 wireless modem.

1 Claim 27 (new): A system in accordance with claim 11 wherein the
2 personal digital assistant includes mobile phone circuitry, including ringer circuitry
3 configured to provide a signal to actuate ringing when a phone call initiation attempt is
4 being received, wherein the personal digital assistant is configured to provide data to the
5 output port indicating that a phone call initiation attempt is being received, in response to
6 the ringer circuitry indicating that a phone call initiation attempt is being received.

1 Claim 28 (new): A system in accordance with claim 15 further comprising
2 a battery charger comprising an output connector and a power input plug connector
3 configured to be coupled to a vehicle cigarette lighter power port and, the personal
4 digital assistant further comprises a rechargeable battery and a connector port
5 configured to be coupled to the output connector of the battery charger.

1 Claim 29 (new): A system in accordance with claim 28 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is coupled to the power input plug connector.

1 Claim 30 (new): A system in accordance with claim 15 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is configured to effect a pattern of actuations of the vehicle component
3 in response to the data being provided to the digital input of the digital to analog
4 converter.

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1 Claim 31 (new): A system in accordance with claim 30 wherein the
2 actuator circuitry is configured to generate different patterns of actuations for different
3 predetermined events to distinguish between different types of predetermined events.
